

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 257472 TOSEC 170002

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DRAFTED BY NEA:HNSAUNDERS/ALATHERTON,JR.:LAB

APPROVED BY NEA:ALATHERTON,JR.

S/S - MR. ORTIZ

S/ MR. BREMER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 257472 TOSEC 170002

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PFOR, SY, US, IS

SUBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM - PROPOSED SHIHABI VISIT TO
WASHINGTON (S/S NO.: 7521408)

REF.: DAMASCUS 4247

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM ATHERTON

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH YOUR INSTRUCTIONS THIS MORNING,
FOLLOWING FOR YOUR APPROVAL IS A PROPOSED INSTRUCTION TO
AMBASSADOR MURPHY ABOUT SHIHABI'S VISITING WASHINGTON.

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2. BEGIN MESSAGE:

IN DISCUSSING FURTHER POSSIBILITY OF SHIHABI VISIT, YOU SHOULD REITERATE THAT IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT, IN OUR VIEW, FOR US TO AVOID ANY UNINTENTIONAL DRIFTING APART AND IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT THAT I AM URGING THAT SHIHABI MAKE THIS TRIP IF POSSIBLE. WE CANNOT PROMISE THAT THERE WILL BE NO PUBLICITY, BUT WE WILL CERTAINLY DO OUR BEST TO TREAT THE VISIT IN VERY LOW-KEY FASHION. WE WOULD ARRANGE FOR SHIHABI TO MEET WITH THE PRESIDENT.

IF SHIHABI COMES, YOU SHOULD BE HERE DURING HIS VISIT. YOU SHOULD COME A FEW DAYS BEFOREHAND. END MESSAGE.

3. RECOMMENDATION: THAT YOU APPROVE THE ABOVE INSTRUCTION.

APPROVE

DISAPPROVE. INGERSOLL

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